

*siliensis*. The following are its principal characters:—Middle antennæ short, subulate; lateral antennæ stout, shorter, composed of two joints—the basal thick, the terminal very small; the two superior tentacles long, reaching as far as the eighth segment, the two inferior shorter, but exceeding the antennæ; jaws strong, curved, presenting twelve teeth; no denticles; feet like those of *Nereis bilineata*. The body, which is 4–5 centimetres in length, has from sixty to seventy segments of a greenish-brown colour, marked with numerous vinose spots irregularly arranged.

This species occurs pretty frequently on the shore at Marseilles, among *Ulva*. It inhabits a membranous tube, constructed in a fold of the fronds of that plant, and is herbivorous. Of eleven individuals that I dissected, nine contained, pell-mell in the cavity of the body, spermatozooids and ova in different stages of development. The mature ova observed in the general cavity are yellowish, and 0·37 millim. in diameter. The free spermatozooids floating in the visceral fluid are composed of a bacilliform anterior part (head) 0·01 millim. in length by 0·0017 millim. in breadth, and of an excessively thin tail, 0·45 millim. in length. The tail is very different, both in its length and the nature of its movements, from the vibratile cilia of the cavity of the body.

The two individuals in which I did not detect hermaphroditism were females, and had the body filled with a great quantity of ova, all arrived at maturity.—*Comptes Rendus*, April 12, 1869, tome lxxviii. pp. 869, 870.

*The Poison-glands of Callophis intestinalis and C. bivirgatus.*

By A. BERNHARD-MEYER.

The author has detected poison-glands in the above-mentioned snakes. He found them first in *Callophis intestinalis*, Laur. (*Elaps furcatus*, Schneid.), whilst engaged in an investigation of the position of the heart in serpents. He found the heart in this species thrown far back towards the tail, in consequence of the presence of two extended, brown organs above the heart, which proved to be the poison-glands. They are distinguished from those of other serpents by their length and by their situation just below the ribs in the ventral cavity. With their excretory ducts they occupy one-third or even more of the total length of the snake.

The true gland is entirely enveloped by a striated muscle, within which the smooth, white tendinous surface is concealed. It is formed of parallel tubes, among which the parenchyma of the gland occurs divided into little portions. In the middle the number of tubes is fifteen or more. They unite upon a large excretory duct in each gland. The excretory ducts run side by side to the head, where they are applied against the outer surfaces of the quadrate and maxillary bones; here a large salivary gland opens into each.

The author has detected the same glands in *Callophis bivirgatus*, Boié; but they do not exist in *C. calligaster*, which, however, does not belong to *Callophis*, or in the Elapid snakes of Australia (*Vermicella*, Gray), Africa (*Pœcilophis*, Gthr.), or America.—*Comptes Rendus*, April 12, 1869, tome lxxviii. p. 860.